

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Kenady on May 18, 2009.

In the claims, claim 52, line 2, after "is formed in" cancel ----symmetrical----, and insert ----asymmetrical----;

claim 73, line 20, after "is formed in" cancel ----symmetrical----, and insert ----asymmetrical----.

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art does not disclose or suggest wherein the variations in the widths are of the order of magnitude of the spatial coherence length of the laser

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radiation at the entrance plane in combination with all the other elements recited in each of independent claim 37 and independent claim 60.

The prior art does not disclose or suggest wherein a diffusing screen is provided as the phase plate in combination with all the other elements recited in each of independent claim 72 and independent claim 82.

The prior art does not disclose or suggest wherein the prism is formed in asymmetrical fashion in combination with all the other elements recited in independent claim 73.

The prior art does not disclose or suggest wherein the position of the centroid beam of the laser beam impinging on the resonator body is eccentric in combination with all the other elements recited in independent claim 75 and independent claim 84.

The prior art does not disclose or suggest wherein the resonator body is formed in asymmetrical fashion, and in that the centroid beam of the laser beam impinges eccentrically on the resonator body in combination with all the other elements recited in independent claim 76.

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The prior art does not disclose or suggest wherein the surface of the resonator body on which the laser beam impinges is provided with a splitter layer in such a way that it influences the entrance angle of the partial beam entering the resonator body in combination with all the other elements recited in each of independent claim 77 and independent claim 85.

The prior art does not disclose or suggest wherein the light impinging on the resonator body is split in a range of ratios from about 1:3 to 2:3 with respect to the first reflected partial beam and the second partial beam circulating in the resonator body in combination with all the other elements recited in independent claim 81.

The prior art does not disclose or suggest wherein the prism is formed in asymmetrical fashion in combination with all the other elements recited in independent claim 83.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ALAN A. MATHEWS whose telephone number is (571)272-2123. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Diane Lee can be reached on (571) 272-2399. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Alan A. Mathews/  
Primary Examiner  
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